



Kentucky History Day Youth Division (4th-5th Grade)

Contest Rules

2011-2012

Kentucky History Day is a program of the Kentucky Historical Society, an agency of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, and an affiliate of the Kentucky Junior Historical Society and National History Day.



KentuckyHistoricalSociety



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What is Kentucky History Day?

Kentucky History Day (KHD) is an affiliate of National History Day (NHD) and is not just a day, but a yearlong program that makes history come alive. Students go beyond the basics and learn to think like historians. While at the national level NHD is only open to middle and high school students, KHD has created a youth division that will allow students in grades 4 and 5 an opportunity to take part in the program. Youth division participants will be able to submit one of the following projects for the 2012 KHD state contest. Teachers and students should read thoroughly the following guidelines before beginning.

Helpful Terms

Historical Context: The intellectual, physical, social and cultural setting in which events take place. What else is going on in the world during the same time period being studied?

Historical Perspective: Understanding a topic's development over time and its influence in history.

Plagiarism: Using the work or ideas of others in ways that give the impression that they are one's own (e.g. copying information word-for-word without using quotations and footnotes, paraphrasing an author's ideas or using visuals or music without giving proper credit).

Primary Source: A source that is written or produced during an event/time period. They are directly related to a topic by time or participation (e.g. someone who participated in or witnessed an event). Primary source materials include newspaper articles from the time, oral history interviews, artifacts, diaries, letters, photographs or other first-hand accounts. An article about Lincoln and the Civil War written by a contemporary in 1863 would be a primary source, whereas an article written about Lincoln and the Civil War in 2011 would not. The recollections of someone who took part in an event can also serve as a primary source. However, an interview with an expert on an event is not a primary source UNLESS he or she lived through or had first-hand knowledge of the events being described.

Secondary Source: Materials, such as published books or articles, created by people who did not witness or participate in the time period/event being researched. Secondary sources are interpretations based on primary sources, research and study that provide historical context. Examples include encyclopedias, textbooks and biographies.

Youth Division Program Overview

Theme

All Youth Division projects *must* relate to **Kentucky** history. Each year, a broad theme is selected by NHD. This year's theme is "Revolution, Reaction and Reform in History." Students in the youth division may select a topic that relates to this theme, but it is **not required**.

Topic

An effective project not only describes an event or topic, but also offers analysis and places it in historical context. Students should ask themselves the following questions as they work:

- Why is this topic important?
- What kind of impact did it have?
- How does the topic relate to Kentucky history?
- How did the contemporary social, economic, cultural and political atmosphere affect the topic? In other words, what significant things were going on during the time period that helped shape or influence the topic?

Rewards for Participation

Outstanding achievement will be recognized through certificates, medals and other special prizes.

Divisions

NHD offers two divisions, and KHD offers a special youth division at the state level. **Students in the youth division will compete only at the state contest during the Kentucky Junior Historical Society Conference in April.** Unlike the other two divisions, youth division participants will not have to advance from a regional competition. Because there is no equivalent division at the national level, youth participants **will not** be eligible to advance to the national contest in College Park, Md.

- Youth Division—Grades 4 and 5 (state-level only)
- Junior Division—Grades 6, 7 and 8
- Senior Division—Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

NOTE: Students in the junior and senior divisions should consult the official NHD rulebook for guidelines on their projects.

Contest Categories for Youth Division

Students may submit only *one* project and can work individually or in a group no larger than five. The categories for the 2011-2012 year are as follows:

- Documentary (individual and group)
- Exhibit (individual and group)

Each category in each division is judged separately. Group participants need not be in the same grade, but they must be in the same division. Students should choose a category that makes the best use of their talents, abilities and interests. Consideration should be made to the availability of equipment and other resources.

Important Notice for Contestants

Students are solely responsible for the security and safety of their projects and equipment. KHD program officials and sponsors will not be responsible for the loss of or damage to exhibits, equipment, or personal belongings during the program activities.

Program Materials

Materials such as topic suggestions are available upon request. Please contact the KHD state office for more information.

Rules for All Youth Division Categories

Rule 1: Connection to Kentucky History

The entry must relate to Kentucky history and clearly explain the topic's **significance in history**. Students may also relate their topic to this year's NHD theme, "Revolution, Reaction and Reform in History," but it is not required.

Rule 2: Contest Participation

Students may participate in the research and preparation of only one entry each year.

NOTE: Participants may not share research with one another unless they are in the same group and are creating one entry together. It is not acceptable to have a common pool of research from which several entries are created.

Rule 3: Individual or Group Entries

An individual documentary and individual poster exhibit must be the work of only one student. A group documentary or group poster exhibit must be the work of 2 to 5 students. All students in a group entry must be involved in the research and interpretation of the group's topic.

Rule 4: Development Requirements

Entries submitted for competition must be researched and developed during the current contest year that begins following the national contest each June. Revising or reusing an entry from a previous year—whether their own or another student's—is unacceptable and will result in disqualification.

Rule 5: Construction of Entry

Participants are responsible for the research, design and creation of their entries. They may receive help and advice from teachers and parents on the mechanical aspects of creating their projects as follows:

- Students may get assistance typing a process paper or other written materials.
- Students can seek guidance from teachers as they research and analyze material, but conclusions must be their own and generated by them.
- Photographs may be commercially developed.
- Students may have reasonable help cutting out exhibit backboards (e.g. a parent uses a cutting tool to cut the board the student designed).

Rule 6: Contest Submissions

Students must be present and bring their project(s) and supporting materials to the state contest. Projects will be displayed and prizes awarded during the Kentucky Junior Historical Society Conference. If the entry requires special equipment to be displayed, it must be provided by the entrant(s).

Rule 7: Prohibited Materials

Potentially dangerous items—such as weapons, firearms, animals, organisms, plants, etc.—are strictly prohibited. Replicas of such items that are obviously not real are acceptable.

Rule 8: Title

All entries must have a title that is clearly visible on all written materials.

Rule 9: Written Material

Entries in all categories must include three copies of the following written material in this order:

1. A title page as described in Rule 10
2. A process paper as described in Rule 11
3. An annotated bibliography as described in Rule 12

These materials must be typed or neatly printed on plain white paper and stapled together in the top left corner. Do not enclose them in a cover or binder.

Rule 10: Title Page

A title page is required for the first page of written material in each category. The page should include only the title of the entry, the name of each participant, and the contest category and division in which the project has been entered.

Title
Student(s) Name(s)
Youth Division
Category

Rule 11: Process Paper

A process paper is a description of no more than 500 words explaining how the student(s) conducted research and created and developed the entry. All categories must include a process paper with their entry. The process paper should include the following four sections:

1. An explanation of how the topic was chosen
2. An overview of how the research was conducted
3. An explanation of how the presentation category was selected and how the project was created
4. An explanation of how the project relates to Kentucky history

Rule 12: Annotated Bibliography

An annotated bibliography is required for all categories. It is a list of sources used to create the project **along with a short explanation of how each source was used**. Students should only list sources that contributed to the development of the entry. For example:

Bates, Daisy. *The Long Shadow of Little Rock*. New York: David McKay Co. Inc., 1962.

Daisy Bates was the president of the Arkansas NAACP and the one who met and listened to the students each day. This first hand account was very important to my paper because it made me more aware of the feelings of the people involved.

Rule 13: The Separation of Primary and Secondary Sources

Primary and secondary sources should be separated in the annotated bibliography.

Rule 14: Style Guides

Styles for citations and bibliographic references must follow the principles in one of the following style guides:

1. Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*
2. Joseph Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 5th Edition

Rule 15: Plagiarism

All sources must be acknowledged in the annotated bibliography. Failure to credit sources is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.

Rule 16: Entry Procedure

Students must register and present projects by specified deadlines and according to procedures outlined by the contest coordinator.

Individual Category Rules

A. Documentary

A documentary should reflect students' ability to use audiovisual equipment to communicate their topic's significance, much like professional documentaries do. The documentary category will help students develop skills using photographic material, film, video, audiotapes, graphics and computers. Presentations should include primary materials but also be an original production. Access to equipment is essential to completing this type of project.

In addition to the "Rules for All Youth Division Categories," the following guidelines apply to all documentaries:

Rule 1: Time Requirements

Documentaries may not exceed 10 minutes in length. Timing will begin with the first visual leads and end as the last visual image or sound concludes (including credits).

Rule 2: Student Production

All entries must be student-produced. All narration, voice-over and dramatization must be student-generated. Only those listed as entrants may participate in the production or appear on camera, except in cases when an expert or a witness to a historical event is being interviewed.

Rule 3: Entry Production

The entry must be an original production. Students may use professional photographs, film, slides, recorded music, etc. within the presentation. However, such items must be given proper credit in the presentation as well as in the annotated bibliography. All editing equipment used in the production of a documentary must be student-operated. Interactive computer programs and web pages in which the judges are asked to participate are not acceptable.

Rule 4: Credits

At the conclusion of the documentary, there should be a general list of acknowledgements and credits for all sources. These credits should be a brief list and not full bibliographic citations. All sources (music, images, film/media clips, interviews, books, websites) utilized in the production of the documentary should be properly cited in the annotated bibliography as well.

B. Exhibit

An exhibit is a visual representation of the research and interpretation of a topic's significance in history. The analysis and interpretation of the topic must be clear and evident to the viewer. Labels and captions should be used creatively with visual images to enhance the message of the exhibit.

In addition to the “Rules for All Youth Division Categories,” the following guidelines apply to all exhibits:

Rule 1: Size Requirements

The overall size of the exhibit when displayed for judging must be no larger than 40 inches wide, 30 inches deep and three feet high.

Rule 2: Media Devices

The entry should contain no media devices or require the use of an electrical outlet.

Rule 3: Word Limit

There is a 300-word limit that applies to all text created by students that appears on or as part of an exhibit entry. This includes text written for titles, subtitles, captions, graphs, timelines or supplemental materials where the words are student-composed.

Words such as “a,” “the” and “of” are counted as one word each.

Brief citations crediting the sources of illustrations or quotations included on the exhibit do not count toward the word limit.

Judging

Benefits of the Evaluation Process

The goal of NHD is to provide students with a high-quality, educational experience—whether or not they win a prize. The judges' evaluations are part of the learning and skill building process of NHD. The judges' evaluations help students to improve areas or skills and provide positive feedback for the hard work that they have put into producing a project. Remember, regardless of how the entry is ranked, by participating in NHD students will benefit from the experience. They will gain research and critical thinking skills which will last a lifetime. Students will become an expert on a topic of interest to themselves and to others. They will acquire poise and self-confidence and will learn to manage their time.

Who are the Judges?

Historians, educators and others interested in history and education serve as judges.

How Does the Evaluation Process Work?

Each separate division and category is usually judged as a whole by a panel of judges. Time constraints or a large number of submissions sometimes require that categories be evaluated initially by several teams of judges. Finals then become necessary. In such cases, the entries judged best by each team of initial judges are re-evaluated by a new team of judges to determine the winning entries in the category.

Consensus Judging

Judges will not assign a numerical score to each entry; rather, they will rank the entries in their group. Judges are required to consult with one another in determining individual rankings.

The Subjective Nature of Judging

Remember: judges must evaluate certain aspects of each entry that are objective (e.g. were primary sources used; is the written material grammatically correct and accurately spelled). But judges must also evaluate interpretive aspects of each entry which are qualitative in nature (e.g., analysis and conclusions about the historical data). Historians often reach different opinions about the significance of the same data. It is therefore crucial for students to base their interpretations and conclusions on solid research. Judges will check to determine whether they used available primary sources and if they were careful to examine all sides of an issue in order to present a balanced account of their findings. The process paper and annotated bibliography are critical to this process.

The Decision of the Judges is Final

KHD works hard to ensure that the contest is as fair as possible. The judges' decisions are final, but the staff does want to be informed of any problems that may occur.

Evaluation Criteria

Historical Quality (60%)

The most important aspect of an entry is its historical quality. Students should ask themselves the following questions to help them focus on their historical analysis:

- Is my entry historically accurate?
- Does my entry provide analysis and interpretation of the historical data rather than just a description?
- Does my entry demonstrate an understanding of historical context?
- Does my annotated bibliography demonstrate wide research?
- Does my entry demonstrate a balanced presentation of materials?
- Does my entry demonstrate use of available primary sources?

Relation to Theme (20%)

A project must clearly explain the relationship between the topic and Kentucky history. Students should ask the following questions to help focus their topic on the theme and its significance:

- How does my topic relate to Kentucky history?
- Why is my topic important?
- How did my topic influence history?
- How did the events of my topic's time period influence my topic in history?

Clarity of Presentation (20%)

Although historical quality is most important, the entry must be presented in an effective manner. Students should ask themselves the following questions:

- Is my entry original and creative in its subject and presentation?
- Is my written material clear, grammatically correct and accurately spelled?
- Is my entry well-organized?
- Is the visual material I present clear?

Rule Compliance

Judges will take into consideration in their final rankings any rule infraction. Failure to comply with the rules will count against an entry.

Category Checklist

A. Documentary

Individual and Group (2-5 students)

- ☐ 10-minute maximum for film
- ☐ Three copies of written materials: title page with required information, process paper and annotated bibliography separated into primary and secondary sources
- ☐ Documentary clearly relates to Kentucky history
- ☐ Entry submitted by deadline

B. Exhibit

Individual and Group (2-5 students)

- ☐ Meets size requirement—No larger than 40 inches wide, 30 inches deep, and three feet high
- ☐ Three copies of written materials: title page with required information, process paper and annotated bibliography separated into primary and secondary sources
- ☐ Exhibit clearly relates to Kentucky history
- ☐ Title is clear and visible
- ☐ Labels, captions, and titles include no more than 300 words
- ☐ Has visual impact and shows interpretation
- ☐ Entry submitted by deadline

Further Information

For more information, contact Tim Talbott, tim.talbott@ky.gov, 502-564-1792, ext. 4428. Please visit Kentucky History Day and National History Day at www.history.ky.gov and www.nhd.org. Please visit the KJHS page at www.history.ky.gov and the NHD website at www.nhd.org.